IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claim 29 without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter, amend Claim 26, and add new Claims 39 to 42 as shown below. The claims, as pending in the subject application, read as follows:

1. (Previously Presented) A spread spectrum communication method comprising the steps of:

dividing a communication period for a spread spectrum signal into a plurality of data-communication periods; and

providing an adjustment period between one data-communication period and another data-communication period, such that the spread spectrum signal is continuously communicated by communicating an adjustment signal for adjusting reception of the spread spectrum signal during the adjustment period.

2. (Original) A spread spectrum communication method according to Claim 1, further comprising the step of synchronizing a spread code in the adjustment period.

3. (Original) A spread spectrum communication method according to Claim 1, further comprising the step of providing a first adjustment period prior to the plurality of data-communication periods.

4. (Original) A spread spectrum communication method according to Claim 3, further comprising the steps of establishing the setting of a receiving end in the first adjustment period prior to the plurality of data communication periods; and

correcting the established setting in the first adjustment period, between the one data-communication period and the other data-communication period.

5. (Original) A spread spectrum communication method according to Claim 1, further comprising the step of holding the adjusted setting of a receiving end in the data-communication period.

6. (Original) A spread spectrum communication method according to Claim 1, further comprising the step of adjusting gain in the adjustment period.

7. (Original) A spread spectrum communication method according to Claim 1, further comprising the step of communicating code-division-multiplexed data in the data-communication period.

8. (Previously Presented) A spread spectrum communication method according to Claim 7, further comprising the step of communicating the adjustment signal not multiplexed by code division multiplexing, in the adjustment period.

9. (Original) A spread spectrum communication method according to Claim 3, wherein gain for the adjustment in the first adjustment period prior to the plurality of data communication periods is larger than gain for the adjustment in the adjustment period between the one data-communication period and the other data-communication period.

10. (Original) A spread spectrum communication method according to Claim 3, wherein an adjusting signal communicated in the first adjustment period prior to the plurality of data-communication periods is longer than an adjusting signal communicated in the adjustment period between the one data-communication period and the other data-communication period.

11. (Previously Presented) A spread spectrum communication apparatus comprising:

communication means for communicating a spread spectrum signal divided into a plurality of data-communication periods; and

adjustment-signal communication means for continuously communicating an adjustment signal for adjusting reception of the spread spectrum signal between one data-communication period and another communication period, such that the spread spectrum signal is continuously communicated.

12. (Original) A spread spectrum communication apparatus according to Claim 11, wherein the adjustment signal is a signal for adjusting the synchronization of a spread code.

13. (Original) A spread spectrum communication apparatus according to Claim 11, wherein said adjustment-signal communication means communicates a first adjustment signal prior to the plurality of data-communication periods.

14. (Original) A spread spectrum communication apparatus according to Claim 13, further comprising adjustment means for establishing the setting of a receiving end in accordance with the first adjustment signal prior to the plurality of data-communication periods and correcting the established setting in accordance with the adjustment signal between the one data-communication period and the other data-communication period.

15. (Original) A spread spectrum communication apparatus according to Claim 11, further comprising holding means for holding the setting of a receiving end in the data-communication period.

16. (Original) A spread spectrum communication apparatus according to Claim 11, wherein the adjustment signal is a signal for adjusting gain.

17. (Original) A spread spectrum communication apparatus according to Claim 11, wherein said data communication means communicates code-division-multiplexed data in the data-communication period.

18. (Original) A spread spectrum communication apparatus according to Claim 17, wherein said adjustment-signal communication means communicates an adjustment signal not multiplexed by code division multiplexing.

19. (Original) A spread spectrum communication apparatus according to Claim 13, wherein gain caused by adjustment in accordance with the first adjustment signal prior to the plurality of data-communication periods is larger than gain caused by adjustment in accordance

with the adjustment signal between the one data-communication period and the other data-communication period.

20. (Original) A spread spectrum communication apparatus according to Claim 13, wherein the first adjustment signal prior to the plurality of data-communication periods is longer than the adjustment signal between the one data-communication period and the other data-communication period.

21. (Currently Amended) A spread spectrum transmission method comprising the steps of:

dividing data into a plurality of groups of data;

transmitting the groups of data one after another to a receiving end on a spread spectrum signal; and

transmitting, between each two successive groups of data, information to be used by the receiving end for receiving the later ~~in processing an immediately-following~~ one of the two successive groups of data, such that the spread spectrum signal is continuously transmitted.

22. (Previously Presented) A spread spectrum transmission method according to Claim 21, wherein information for synchronizing a spread code is transmitted in said information transmitting step.

23. (Previously Presented) A spread spectrum transmission method according to Claim 21, wherein information for adjusting gain is transmitted in said information transmitting step.

24. (Previously Presented) A spread spectrum transmission method according to Claim 21, wherein the groups of data are transmitted by code division multiplexing and the information is transmitted without code division multiplexing.

25. (Previously Presented) A spread spectrum transmission method according to Claim 21, further comprising the step of transmitting first information prior to the groups of data, wherein a transmission period of the first information is longer than that of the information transmitted between each two successive groups of data.

26. (Currently Amended) A spread spectrum communication apparatus comprising:

data transmission means for transmitting a plurality of sets of data on a spread spectrum signal;

information transmission means for transmitting, between each two successive sets of data, information to be used by a receiving end for receiving the later ~~in processing an immediately-following~~ one of the two successive sets of data, such that the spread spectrum signal is continuously transmitted,

wherein said data transmission means transmits the sets of data by code division multiplexing, and said information transmission means transmits information which is not multiplexed by code division multiplexing.

27. (Previously Presented) A spread spectrum communication apparatus according to Claim 26, wherein said information transmission means transmits information for synchronizing a spread code.

28. (Previously Presented) A spread spectrum communication apparatus according to Claim 26, wherein said information transmission means transmits information for adjusting gain.

29. (Canceled)

30. (Previously Presented) A spread spectrum communication apparatus according to Claim 26, wherein said information transmission means transmits first information prior to the sets of data, wherein a transmission period of the first information is longer than that of the information between each two successive sets of data.

31. (Previously Presented) A spread spectrum transmission method comprising the step of transmitting a continuous spread spectrum signal including a plurality of data-communication periods,

wherein an adjustment signal for adjusting synchronization is further transmitted, in the continuous spread spectrum signal, between one of the plurality of data-communication periods and another one of the plurality of data-communication periods.

32. (Previously Presented) A spread spectrum transmission method according to Claim 31, wherein a signal for adjusting gain is communicated between said one of the plurality of data-communication periods and said another one of the plurality of data-communication periods.

33. (Previously Presented) A spread spectrum transmission method according to Claim 31, wherein a first adjustment signal is transmitted prior to the plurality of data-communicating periods, wherein the first adjustment signal is longer than the synchronizing adjustment signal transmitted between said one data-communication period and said another data-communication period.

34. (Previously Presented) A spread spectrum transmission method according to Claim 31, wherein a code-division multiplexed signal is transmitted in the plurality of data-communication periods, and the adjustment signal is not multiplexed by code division multiplexing.

35. (Previously Presented) A spread spectrum transmission apparatus comprising transmission means for transmitting a continuous spread spectrum signal including a plurality of data-communication periods, wherein said transmission means further transmits an adjustment signal for adjusting synchronization, in the continuous spread spectrum signal, between one of the plurality of data-communication periods and another one of the plurality of data-communication periods.

36. (Previously Presented) A spread spectrum transmission apparatus according to Claim 35, wherein said transmission means transmits a signal for adjusting gain between said one of the plurality of data-communication periods and said another one of the plurality of data-communication periods.

37. (Previously Presented) A spread spectrum transmission apparatus according to Claim 35, wherein said transmission means transmits a first adjustment signal prior to the plurality of data-communicating periods, wherein the first signal is longer than the signal transmitted between said one data-communication period and said another data-communication periods.

38. (Previously Presented) A spread spectrum transmission apparatus according to Claim 35, wherein said transmission means transmits a code-division multiplexed signal in-the plurality of data-communication periods; and the adjustment signal is not multiplexed by code division multiplexing.

39. (New) A spread spectrum communication apparatus comprising:

data transmission means for transmitting a plurality of sets of data on a spread spectrum signal;

information transmission means for transmitting, between each two successive sets of data, information to be used by a receiving end for receiving the later one of the two successive sets of data, such that the spread spectrum signal is continuously transmitted,

wherein said information transmission means transmits first information prior to the sets of data, wherein a transmission period of the first information is longer than that of the information between each two successive sets of data.

40. (New) A spread spectrum communication apparatus according to Claim 39, wherein said information transmission means transmits information for synchronizing a spread code.

41. (New) A spread spectrum communication apparatus according to Claim 39, wherein said information transmission means transmits information for adjusting gain.

42. (New) A spread spectrum communication apparatus according to Claim 39, wherein said data transmission means transmits the groups of data by code division multiplexing, and said information transmission means transmits information which is not multiplexed by code division multiplexing.